

Plans continue to come together for the annual Pekin Fourth of July Celebration. In addition to another attempt at breaking the World Record for largest spoon ensemble, there is a lot planned.

More than 1,100 folks battled the rain to take part in last year's World Record attempt, but the number came up short.

This year, event organizer Steve "Spoonman" Tankersley will attempt to break the record on July 3.

He said that time is probably the busiest time for the festival at the park and he said it lines up perfect for a world record.

"When we break the record that night, we will celebrate with a big firework show," Tankersley said.

He said he and his family and other volunteers will be at the park beginning at noon and will sign people in and give them a wrist band. Once they have a wrist band, they can leave and return at 9 a.m. for the record-breaking attempt.

Also the Bluegrass Gospel Alliance will be performing and play with Tankersley and the other participants as they break the record.

More than 1,900 people are needed to take the record back from a group that won the record in Japan.

Keep reading the paper for additional details about the attempt at breaking the world record.

The Pekin Community Betterment Organization discussed other things at the group's regular meeting on May 15.

Rhonda Burnett reported that she found out that Frank "Buster" Crockett is the oldest living veteran in Washington County.

Since he served as Grand Marshal a couple of years ago, Burnett suggested that the town invite all living veterans to be part of the parade and have them ride on one vehicle. An invitation for all veterans will be put in the banner.

Barry Hattabaugh announced the entertainment he has lined up for the event.

He said on July 3, Lannie Hattabaugh's band and Brian Elmore will perform. On July 4th, Josh Globber, Jim Smoak and Janet Hattabaugh will perform.

He is planning to get more information about the musical acts for the program.

Sandy Ison mentioned plaques need to be ordered for the antique and classic cars that are in

the parade. Parade entry numbers need to be printed up and she prefers to have the same type of number that were printed for the 2012 parade. Cheryl Yates volunteered to take care of this.

Darlene Hall reported that everything is a go for the queen contest.

Ads need to be sold for the 2014 program book and a number of people volunteered to do that.